



## Vietnam Veterans Memorial: In Memory Plaque

Washington D.C., National Mall and Memorial Parks, Vietnam Veterans Memorial

The "Vietnam Veterans Memorial: In Memory Plaque" is perhaps one of the least well-known Vietnam Memorials in the United States of America. In 2004, the In Memory Plaque was dedicated near the Three Servicemen (Warriors) statue plaza. It seemed to many it was another too-little, too-late gesture to appease veterans' growing concerns for veterans' dying from PTSD, suicide, Agent Orange and the rainbow of toxic chemicals sprayed over Vietnam, Thailand, designated and territorial waters of Sea, Guam, American Samoa, Johnston Atoll (or ships calling at that atoll).

Orange was not the only name or color of chemicals sprayed. Fifty-five-gallon drums contained the toxic chemicals and were easily identified by the bright colors painted around the center of the barrel as related to the chemicals being shipped, stored, and transported in: Agents Blue, Green, Orange, Orange II, Orange III, Super Orange, Pink, Purple, and White, were sprayed over South Vietnam in quantities estimated to be 20,000,000 gallons.

According to Agent Orange (history.com) ... the exact number of US veteran deaths are— unknown ... "Complications from Agent Orange exposure were life-threatening and caused death estimated at over 300,000 U.S. veterans ... it would require nearly five additional Vietnam Veterans Memorials (Wall of 58,000 plus names each), to list these 300,000 casualties."

The number of veterans currently diagnosed with cancer and other related Agent Orange diseases— is unknown.

[VA Disability Eligibility requirements – Agent Orange, and hazardous materials.](https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/#full-eligibility-requirements)

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## **SOBERING STATISTICS FOR THE VIETNAM WAR**

post3legion.org (American Legion)

"In case you haven't been paying attention these past few decades after you returned from Vietnam, the clock has been ticking. The following are some statistics that are at once depressing yet in a larger sense should give you a HUGE SENSE OF PRIDE.

"Of the 2,709,918 Americans who served in Vietnam, Less than 850,000 are estimated to be alive today, with the youngest American Vietnam veteran's age approximated to be 60 years old." So, if you're alive and reading this, how does it feel to be among the last 1/3rd of all the U.S. Vets who served in Vietnam?"

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